



## **Precautionary Measures for Wastewater and Stormwater Systems Before, During, and After a Major Hurricane**

### **Who is affected by this initiative?**

This Alert is intended for NJPDES permittees who discharge wastewater or stormwater, as well as governmental or other agencies who maintain and operate sanitary and/or stormwater collection systems.

### **What is occurring?**

Current weather forecasts predict that Hurricane Sandy may cause severe weather conditions throughout the state including heavy rains, high winds, and severe localized flooding. The NJDEP is strongly advising NJPDES permittees to:

1. Update your emergency contact list for internal and external communications;
2. Test your remote access and communication systems and ensure they are in good working order;
3. Place operating/emergency response personnel on call and review emergency procedures;
4. Provide the NJ State Police with 24-hour contact information for your organization (operation center) in the event a travel restriction is imposed;
5. Provide an emergency response personnel list to the operator on 24-hour call;
6. Ensure that all supplies, including water treatment chemicals and fuels, are fully stocked and secured to the maximum extent possible;
7. Test auxiliary power sources and generators to ensure they are in good working order;
8. If applicable, arrange for portable generators for key pumping stations;
9. Inspect infrastructure and back-ups to ensure they are functioning properly;
10. Inspect Combined Sewer Systems and ensure that the regulators, screening facilities, netting and tide gates are functioning properly;
11. Clear all road storm drains and storm inlets prior to the storm event; and
12. Inspect/assess critical infrastructure for damage after the storm, when you can do so safely.

Any non-compliance with permit limitations, anticipated or unanticipated bypass, or violation as outlined in N.J.A.C. 7:14A-6.10, must be reported to the DEP Hotline (1-800-WARN DEP) within 2 hours of the event or knowledge of the event, or 24 hours depending on the nature of the violation (see N.J.A.C. 7:14A-6.10). The Department also urges any facility experiencing non-compliance or anticipating such non-compliance to contact downstream drinking water purveyors and their local department of health.

### **What is DEP doing?**

For Emergency Repair Projects the Department has developed a process to respond expeditiously when emergencies occur, obtain basic project information, make an eligibility determination and issue an approval so that owners/operators can expeditiously undertake the needed repairs and maintain eligibility for those expenditures through the Environmental Infrastructure Financing Program.

# COMPLIANCE ADVISORY

## What should I do?

NJPDES permit holders should review items 1 through 12 on the first page of this document. In addition, the following documents are pertinent to Emergency Response preparation:

- Emergency Response and Planning page (<http://www.nj.gov/dep/infofinder/topics/emergency.htm>)
- Precautionary Measures for Wastewater and Stormwater Systems Before, During and After a Major Hurricane: [http://www.state.nj.us/dep/special/hurricane-irene/docs/Hurricane\\_PM2.pdf](http://www.state.nj.us/dep/special/hurricane-irene/docs/Hurricane_PM2.pdf);
- Frequently Asked Questions Related to Water Quality: <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/special/hurricane-irene/docs/WaterQuality.pdf> :
- For wastewater emergency repair projects, see: [http://www.nj.gov/dep/dwq/pdf/cwf\\_2012P\\_cwpl.pdf](http://www.nj.gov/dep/dwq/pdf/cwf_2012P_cwpl.pdf).
- For drinking water emergency repair projects, visit [http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/pdf/ff2012\\_iup\\_proposed.pdf](http://www.nj.gov/dep/watersupply/pdf/ff2012_iup_proposed.pdf).
- You can also contact the Municipal Finance and Construction Element at 609-633-1170.

## Whom should I contact with questions?

Bureau of Water Compliance & Enforcement - Northern 7 Ridgedale Avenue, Cedar Knolls, NJ 07927 Ph: 973-656-4099 Fax: 973-656-4400 Jurisdiction: Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Hunterdon, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, and Warren Counties

Bureau of Water Compliance and Enforcement - Central Mail Code 44-03, 22 S. Clinton Avenue, 4 Station Plaza, PO Box 420, Trenton, NJ 08625-0420 Ph: 609-292-3010 Fax: 609-292-6493 Jurisdiction: Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, and Union Counties

Bureau of Water Compliance & Enforcement - Southern 2 Riverside Drive, Suite 201, Camden, NJ 08103 Ph: 856-614-3655 Fax: 856-614-3608 Jurisdiction: Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, and Salem Counties

## Where can I get more information?

Additional information can be found at the following links: <http://www.epa.gov/hurricanes/> and <http://www.fema.gov/hazard/hurricane/index.shtm> and at <http://www.state.nj.us/dep/>.

To comment on this advisory:

<http://www.nj.gov/dep/enforcement/survey.html>

Please note this advisory is intended to be a summary explanation of a Department initiative. It does not include all potentially applicable requirements. If you have any questions related to compliance with this initiative, please contact the contact numbers listed above.